

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Cascade Campus
Liberal Arts & Mathematics Division
Terrell Hall (TH), Room 220
971-722-5251

Rock Creek Campus
Building 3, Room 201
971-722-7235

Southeast Center
Mt. Scott Hall (MSH), Room 103
971-722-6146

Sylvania Campus
Communications Technology Building (CT), Room 216
971-722-4264

DESCRIPTION

Communication studies is the study of human communication processes. By understanding human symbolic interaction, students may critically analyze and apply methods of persuasion in interpersonal, small-group, intercultural, business, public speaking, and mass media contexts. Communication Studies provides students with practical tools that enable them to develop, manage and maintain many types of relationships.

PCC offers three sequences of classes, which reflect differing approaches, for students who want a more focused study of communication: SP 140, 237, 214, 215 (Interpersonal Communication); SP 112, 228 (Persuasive Discourse); SP 130, 215, 237 (Business Communication). See the Course Description (SP prefix) section of this catalog for individual communication studies courses and their prerequisites. To learn whether courses will transfer to a four-year university, students must check with the institutions to which they intend to transfer.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SP 100 Introduction to Speech Communication 4.00 Covers complexities of the communication process. Includes insights into the causes and effects of general communication behaviors, involvement in active exploration of basic communication theories and concepts, and opportunities to develop communication strengths. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 101 Oral Communication Skills 3.00 Improve listening and speaking skills. Includes oral reports, conference procedures and everyday conversation. Audit available.

SP 105 Listening 4.00 Emphasizes understanding and appreciation of listening as an integral part of the communication process. Investigates and applies current research in listening theory. Analyzes and provides practice in the appropriateness and application of the major types of listening in academic, business, media and interpersonal contexts. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 110 Voice and Articulation 3.00 Present prepared and impromptu assignments with emphasis on understanding the vocal mechanism for production of Standard American speech while learning the International Phonetic Alphabet. Includes group or individual work designed to improve articulation, breathing, projection, expressiveness, and pronunciation. Audit available.

SP 111 Public Speaking 4.00 Introduction to speechmaking based primarily on a traditional public speaking approach. Aids students in developing theoretical understanding and practical application of oral communication skills. Also includes techniques

in controlling speech anxiety, how to structure and organize information to present to a variety of audiences, and physical and vocal delivery skills. Prerequisite: MTH 20 or equivalent placement test score, and WR 121. Audit available.

SP 111H Public Speaking: Honors 4.00 An honors version of SP 111. Introduction to speechmaking based primarily on a traditional public speaking approach. Aids students in developing theoretical understanding and practical application of oral communication skills. Also includes techniques in controlling speech anxiety, how to structure and organize information to present to a variety of audiences, and physical and vocal delivery skills. Prerequisite: 3.25 GPA, MTH 20 or equivalent placement test score, and WR 121. Audit available.

SP 112 Persuasion, Argumentation and Debate 4.00 Explores theories of persuasion. Develops skills of inquiry and advocacy through oral discourse, including critical analysis and rules of evidence. Practice in using, planning, delivering and refuting persuasive arguments in a variety of extemporaneous formats. Through this course, students will learn how to more effectively influence others as well as how others are trying to influence them. Prerequisite: SP 111 and its prerequisite requirements. Audit available.

SP 130 Business and Professional Speech Communication 4.00 Communication as it relates to business and professional settings. Readings and discussions focus on the climates, settings, philosophies, and practices of organizational communication, including effective business presentations. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 140 Introduction to Intercultural Communication 4.00 Explores the nature and impact of different cultures on communication. Includes interactive relationship forms as the basis for global understanding in the classroom, business or travel. Focus on processing messages with accelerating changes in political, economic and immigration patterns through individual cultural perceptions. Understand and communicate with people who are "different." Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 121 Voice and Diction 4.00 Voice production and articulation of speech sound, with attention to elementary speech physiology and phonetics. Develops more effective speech for teachers, radio and television speakers, public speakers and others who require special competence in speaking. Prerequisite: SP 111 and its prerequisite requirements. Audit available.

SP 214 Interpersonal Communication: Process & Theory 4.00 Study of interpersonal communication in different contexts; focuses on message exchange in person-to-person interactions, emphasizing theoretical principles and their application. Concentration is in the development of various communication skills in interpersonal contexts. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 215 Small Group Communication: Process and Theory 4.00 Problem solving aspects of small group activities. Includes process and task, leadership, verbal and non-verbal messages in the small group, norms and roles, conflict reduction, and decision making. Focuses on theory and practice. SP 100 recommended. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 227 Nonverbal Communication 4.00 Studies the nonverbal aspect of communication as related to verbal communication. Emphasis is on the theories and types of nonverbal behavior. Consideration is given to the influence of such factors as voice, body movement, eye behavior, touch, space, time, smell, and physical and social environments. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 228 Mass Communication 4.00 Explores the symbiotic relationship of the mass media and society from a rhetorical perspective. Investigation into the technological advancements in mass communications and their subsequent affect on public discourse and the individual in society will be examined. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 229 Oral Interpretation 3.00 Oral interpretation of literature from the areas of prose, poetry and drama. Analyze specific literary works and communicate that understanding through performance. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 237 Gender and Communication 4.00 Examines the similarities and differences in male and female communication styles and patterns. Particular attention given to the implications of gender as social construct upon perception, values, stereotypes, language use, nonverbal communication, and power and conflict in human relationships. Discusses influence of mass communication upon shaping and constructing male and female sex roles. Course fulfills block transfer and cultural diversity requirements and is transferable to state four-year colleges and universities. Prerequisite: WR 115, RD 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores. Audit available.

SP 270 Forensics: Speech and Debate 3.00 Development of public communication skills by representing the college in intercollegiate competition. Designed to improve skills in reasoning and public communication. Audit available.

SP 270B Projects in Public Speaking 2.00 Intercollegiate forensics and non-competitive speaking. Represent the college through participating in the forensics team. Requires one hr/wk meetings with instructor and four hr/wk outside sessions and speech tournaments. SP 111 recommended. Audit available.